

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, following "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS", as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Serial No. 08/482,161, filed June 7, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 6,162,461, issued December 19, 2000, filed June 7, 1995, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/454,121, filed as filed November 30, 1995, which is a national stage application under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of international application No. PCT/NL94/00168, filed July 19, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 6,071,520, issued June 6, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of 08/030,335, filed March 8, 1993, now U.S. Patent No. 5,491,073, issued February 13, 1996, filed as a national stage application under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of international application No. PCT/NL91/00165, filed Sept. 11, 1991.

Please replace the paragraph on page 19, lines 2-16, following "INCREASMENT OF THE SYNTHESIS OF APOPTIN", with the following paragraph:

To examine the effect of the direct sequences in front of the apoptin ATG-initiation codon, we have made two pCR-3.1-apoptin constructs. pCR-VP3ori contains the original direct upstream sequences (5'-TTTCAA-3' → 5'-TTTCAA-3') SEQ ID NO: 3 of the ATG-codon, whereas the other one, pCR-Vp3mu contains the direct upstream sequence (5'-GCCAAC-3' → 5'-GCCAAC-3') SEQ ID NO: 3. By means of an in-vitro transcription/translation wheat-germ assay, it was determined that the apoptin expression of the pCR-VP3mu was at least 5 times more than observed for pCR-VP3ori. These data indicate that the nature of the direct upstream sequences of the apoptin-ATG influences the synthesis of apoptin. Construction of (viral) vectors with the direct upstream sequence 5'-GCCAAC-3' → (5'-GCCAAC-3') SEQ ID NO: 3 in front of the ATG-codon of apoptin, will result in a higher apoptin production and indirectly in an increased apoptin-induced apoptosis.